



*Department of Public Safety*  
**Public Safety Communications**  
Monroe County, New York

**Maggie Brooks**  
*County Executive*

**Richard J. Verdouw**  
*Director of Communications*

May 25, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 05-62

Dear **Ms. Dortch**:

Monroe County, NY, operates a 900MHz, 2-way paging system as an integral part of our overall communications system. This system covers approximately 700 square miles and serves over 70 agencies and a population of approximately 700,000.

On April 13, 2007, an ex parte notice was filed in WT Docket 05-62 regarding an April 12 meeting between the Commission's staff and industry representatives from the business, industrial, and land transportation sectors. At this meeting, representatives urged the Commission to extend current 800 MHz interference protection standards into the 900 MHz band.

We believe such protection is extremely necessary, and we urge the Commission to adopt the recommended standards.

We also urge the Commission to make the 900 MHz band more available to public safety for advanced alerting systems. The current generation of paging/alerting products operates in this band. Public safety's ability to alert our first responders is critically important to us and to those we serve. It is not reasonable to relegate us solely to the 20-year-old "1-way pager" technology supported at VHF and UHF. We need access to current, commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) equipment for our mission-critical alerting requirements. This equipment operates in the 900 MHz band, and so must we.

These two steps -- applying 800 MHz-style interference protection standards to the 900 MHz band, and making this band more available to public safety -- will serve the best interests of the public.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Verdouw".

**Richard Verdouw**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Monroe County Department of Public Safety**

cc: Tracy P Marshal  
Mark Crosby  
Jill Lyon  
Andre Cote  
Terry Fishel  
David Hu  
Ken Keane  
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